



## Joint NRL-Latvia Research on Harbor Remediation in Liepaja, Latvia

Researchers at NRL have joined with scientists at Latvian Universities to initiate remediation of Liepaja Harbor. On 17 September 1991 Latvia was restored status as a full member of the United Nations. Since this time there has been strong activity to rebuild the national economy. One of the key industrial cities in Latvia is Liepaja, a port on the Baltic Sea. Liepaja is bound to make a large scale contribution to financial security in Latvia because of its geographic location relative to Eastern and Western European ports.



Liepaja was previously a focal point for USSR military security on the Baltic Sea. In 1967 the commercial port was converted to a closed USSR Naval Base. As a result of military activity in the region, there is an extensive broad base of contaminants on land and in the harbor region

This proposed contribution to remedial action in Liepaja, Latvia is designed to initiate collaborative activity with the Latvian Government, and to provide data on

remediation technologies and procedures that are useful and cost effective. Support for scientific research into environmental problems in Latvia and potential solutions currently is strong at the ministerial level of the government.



Recent developments by scientist at the Naval Research Laboratory will contribute to remedial efforts by identifying sources of the contaminants in complex mixing regions, providing estimates of contaminant transport into adjacent ecosystems, and measuring in situ bacterial degradation of the contaminants.

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